

## GRUBSTAKE CONTRACTS

The last suit over the Oregon King mine, involving a grubstake question, has again illustrated to mine operators how many compacts of ancient date may bring serious trouble to a producing mine, any time before patent. But Oregon is now protected from these troubles in all affairs arising since 1898. Mining copartnerships, commonly known as grubstake contracts, must be in writing now and filed for record with the recorder of conveyances or county clerk of the county where the claims are located. The act expressly says that a grubstaking contract must also contain the names of the parties thereto, and the duration of the contract, otherwise it shall be null and void.

The effect of this statute will protect purchasers of properties from evils which they could not by any diligence discover before purchasing. Most old prospectors are working, as a rule, under someone who aids them to continue in the field. As a prospector changes from one locality to another, he may receive such from a half dozen different persons. If any of these vague, indifferent compacts, to which the old law gave sympathetic hearings, were to hang a menace for years over any location, a prospector might make, as has been the case at the Oregon King, investors would not buy until the patent had been secured.—Exchange.

## CARSON MINES SOLD TO BOSTON COMPANY

When asked about the reported sale of the Camp Carson mines, Mr. N. E. Imhaus, of Baker City, secretary of the Foley-Imhaus & Company Corporation, formerly owner of said mines, said:

"We can make public the fact that the Carson mines have been transferred to a Boston syndicate, who has worked the mines one year, and lately by this syndicate to a California corporation after an examination made by three experts, one of which is the well known placer expert of the Evans hydraulic elevator fame, his company is equipping and working the mines on a large scale, and which will be of great profit and interest to the district. The price quoted for the property in the information published this morning is not correct and we are not at liberty to make public price, terms or conditions.

"We are assured that the new company which has taken hold of the mines intend operating them, on a gigantic scale.

"Hydraulic elevators and every modern facility will be applied to work the mines in a practical way.

"It is estimated that \$8,000 or \$100,000 will be expended in equipment, and there is every assurance the mines will be great producers."—Democrat.

### Arsenic Plant at Everett.

The by-product plant of the Puget Sound Reduction company at Everett, Washington, for the condensation and collection of the white

arsenic is quite simple in construction and efficient in operation. There is a long brick flue, twenty feet high, connecting the Wetthey mechanical six hearth sixty-ton roasting furnace with the dust chamber, which latter is five feet high, and covers an area of about 125 by 150 feet. This chamber is built of four-inch brick walls, and is divided into four equal parts, so arranged that by the use of valves or dampers any one section can be cut out from the other, and condensation may thus be carried on continuously. The arsenical compounds in the ore are decomposed during the roasting, and are transformed chiefly into volatile arsenious oxide, which passes out with the waste gases of the furnace, and is subsequently condensed by their cooling and lessened velocity, and settles on the floor of the dust chamber, or becomes attached to the sides and roof in beautiful festoons of pure white crystals resembling snow. At stated intervals each section is cut out from the system and the accumulated deposit of white arsenic is shoveled into hand-barrows and carried to storage bins until needed for subsequent refining in a small reverberatory furnace. After the arsenic has been expelled by the roasting, the ore is discharged from the furnace and treated with lead ore in a shaft furnace for the extraction of the gold and silver contents.—Mining World.

### Government Farm for Cook Co.

The government will establish an agricultural experiment station on the segregated land of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company. This information is contained in a letter from Hon. Elwood Mead, chief of the Irrigation and drainage investigation of the department of agriculture, within the past week and is of the utmost importance, not only to Bend, but to the whole of central Oregon. This experiment plant will be in full operation for next season and it is bound to be conducted by the government for at least three years. Nearly all the expenses will be borne by the D. I. & P. company, however. Different localities and soils require different treatments. The quantity of water and the time of service are also very important and their determination requires not only good judgment but large experience in this particular field of endeavor. Irrigation has failed in some places because water was not properly applied. It is now proposed to have the guidance of an expert in finding just what treatment is best for Deschutes soil and climate, how and when water shall be applied to get the best results and what crops will do the best here. The expert will also have charge of the installation of measuring boxes at diversion points.—Bend Bulletin.

### Rich Standard.

Higher copper values are coming into the cobalt shoot in the main Standard drift at the Standard mine, according to the last weekly report to the home office of the Killen, Warner Stewart company by Superintendent M. J. Heath. For the past two weeks a force of miners has been busy upraising from the Standard drift on the rich cobalt ore shoot. Ore is being taken out for a 1,000-pound test shipment to a Denver smelting plant. As the upraise progresses toward the surface, higher copper values are encountered, with no diminution of the cobalt values.

## HOT ROCK IN OX BOW TUNNEL

While driving the Ox Bow tunnel, an irrigation and power enterprise on Snake river, near Payette, a strata of hot rock was encountered at a distance of 900 feet from the east portal. The heat was so intense that the drillers were forced to knock off for a day. Finally a blast of cold air from the compressor plant was forced against the face until the temperature was sufficiently lowered to permit of work. Recently in the same tunnel a heavy flow of hot water, almost boiling, was encountered. After penetrating a hot granite dyke the rock became cooler, but the face is again in very hot stone.

## VALUABLE MARBLE IN GRANT COUNTY

Few people in this section realize that one of the richest marble deposits in the United States is located in this county, only a few miles from John Day. The deposit in question is located on Indian creek and is the property of D. M. Butler.

Mr. Butler has been using this marble rock for making lime, which he has sold through the valley for building purposes. Until lately he was not aware of the value of the rock. His attention has been called to the matter, however, by parties who are familiar with the marble business.

Mr. Butler brought a piece of the marble to this city last week and left it with Mr. Turner, the Baker City stonecutter, who is working on the bank building. Mr. Turner has experimented with the rock and finds that it takes an excellent polish. He is highly pleased with his experiment and is seriously considering the proposition of remaining in the valley and operating marble works.

As considerable marble is shipped into the valley for tombstones and other purposes, there is no doubt but that it would be a paying venture.

The marble is of the blue mottled variety and is considered very valuable, being next in commercial value to the onyx and Italian marbles. It is the only marble deposit, outside of one near Spokane, Washington, in the northwest, most of the marble used here being shipped from Maine and Vermont.—Grant County News.

### Notice.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Little Cracker Gold Mining and Milling company will be held in the company's office in Sumpter, Baker county, state of Oregon, on the 7th day of November, 1904, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, for the purpose of electing officers for the next year and for the transaction of such business as may come before said meeting.

D. L. WILLARD, secretary.

Colonel Topping left this afternoon for Victoria, B. C., where he will remain indefinitely. His purpose is to keep his eye on a mineral country to the north, that a new railroad is opening up.

## MINING NOTES.

The Sumpter smelter has awarded a contract for 1,000 cords of wood.

The W. E. King quartz mill, in Mormon Basin, has begun dropping stamps on custom ore.

Electric power, transmitted from Rock creek, now drives machine drills at the Balsley-Elkhorn.

Messrs. Gilkey & Kershaw are arranging to install a three-stamp prospecting mill on their Belmont group in the Greenhorns.

E. P. Bergman, the Sumpter grocer, will apply for a patent on his Ole Bull group on Cracker creek, the survey has been made.

Jack Wilson, who has been looking after his interests in Sumpter for several days, returned today to his ranch and mine near Durkee.

The Basche-Sage Hardware company has filed suit for attachment against the property of the North Pacific Mining company in Grant county.

A. P. Smith, representative-elect, came down from the Emma mine today. He holds a \$10,000 bond on the property and is rushing development.

At 525-foot drift on the Willie Boy Cleveland vein of the Standard mine at Quartzburg has cut a cross vein five feet wide, carrying high copper values.

According to a deed filed September 29 in Grant county, Ed Sullivan has sold his Bergland claim to the Greenhorn Mines & Development company, for a nominal figure.

T. S. Kennerly, of the Greenhorn Gold Coin, and W. H. Richman, of Philadelphia, interested in the company, came in from that property today and are guests at Hotel Sumpter.

The Equity mine, under the management of Rev. J. W. Hughes, of Baker City, hereafter will be a steady shipper of crude ore and concentrates to the Sumpter smelter.

Arthur Wightman, Jr., has sold to C. H. Innis, the Baker City assayer, a quarter interest in the Chloirde, Governor, Golden Gate and Peek-a-boo claims in Grant county for \$1,000.

The deal, which is pending for the Bellevue mine, remain in statu quo. The Sumpter men interested in the negotiations, when approached by a Miner representative, refused to give out any information.

Rhodia Harris, step-son of John Clark, of Bourne, passed through Sumpter this morning, en route to the town at the head of the gulch. He has just returned from interior Alaska. "All men who come from Alaska are liars," he says, "but the country is the greatest on earth."

A charter has been issued from the office of the secretary of state at Salem, authorizing the Dale Gold and Silver Mining and Ditch company to transact business in Grant and Umatilla counties. The company is capitalized at \$30,000 and G. S. Andrus, A. B. Webdell and W. M. Watkins are the incorporators.

One of the heaviest freight trains that has been pulled over the Sumpter road for months past, came in this morning. It had eleven car loads of freight for Sumpter alone, three of coke for the smelter, two of hay for Holland, two of grain for the O. T. company, two of coal for the Sumpter Fuel company, and two of general merchandise.